$\begin{array}{c} L \; E \; N \; T \\ \\ \text{A JOURNEY TO THE CROSS} \end{array}$ 

# DAY ONE - ASH WEDNESDAY | MARCH 6

Shimmering hope mingled with ashes I hear a word as I wander this wilderness passage BELOVED.
I am His.
He is mine.
Flooded by Spirit and waters divine.

On this first day of Lent, Ash Wednesday, we invite you to journey with us for the next 40 days as we walk the path of the cross, and into the ultimate light of the resurrection. To us, everything hinges on this story, and everything hinges on our response to it.

We enter into this wilderness together - and yet alone - with the only One who can take this journey with us. Mirroring the 40 transformative days Jesus spent in the desert, we willingly say "yes" to being tested, tried, and purified. There is an eagerness to which we enter the wilderness, knowing His powerful presence is with us in it, and when we reach our destination, it will be like knowing Him again for the first time. It will be a path of necessary struggle, and yet fulfilling joy.

Today on Ash Wednesday, we press the mark of the cross on our fore-heads, eager for the ashes, eager for repentance.

"...for dust you are and to dust you will return." Genesis 3:19

# WEEK ONE READINGS

### MARCH 7

### Mark 1:9-12

The water of the Spirit precedes the wilderness. Ask Him to fill you anew during this season.

### MARCH 8

### Matthew 4

Jesus was flesh, like us, and knew hunger. After fasting for 40 days and 40 nights we see him pointing to his true sustenance, the Word of God. What is God saying to you this day? This will be your sustenance.

### MARCH 9

# 2 Corinthians 5:14-21

Pray for the message of reconciliation to be evident in your life - reconciliation of yourself to God and yourself to others.

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